

**Amendments to the Abstract:**

*Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:*

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A wearable garment, ~~usable by athletes, workers, and the elderly or infirm,~~  
incorporates ~~an easily-operated~~ a manual interconnect device, so that a user wearing  
the garment can operate the interconnect device by ~~merely~~ coupling a connector, which  
is in turn coupled to a power source or external electronic device. Through a releasable  
locking action by the user, the connector is electrically coupled to the interconnect  
device, which is coupled to a fabric circuit integrated in the garment, such that operation  
of a locking action activates related ancillary equipment such as power supplies or  
electronic devices.